

# The Atlantic Observer

Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Atlantic Division

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# Cortinas and Mathews named NAVFAC Engineers of the Year

**NAVFAC HQ**—Both the Naval Facilities Engineering Command's Military and Civilian Engineer of the Year came from the Atlantic Division. Rear Adm. Michael Johnson, NAVFAC Commander, announced the winners in December. Nominees came from NAVFAC field divisions, public works centers and specialty centers world-wide.

**Commander David Cortinas**, Caribbean IPT leader was the LANTDIV Headquarters Military Engineer of the Year. He was recognized for his management of the design and construction of detention camps and Joint Task Force support facilities at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba during 2002. He spearheaded construction of long-term and short-term facilities while coordinating the work of over 700 contractor personnel and 150 Seabee and Marine Corps Engineers. He earned a bachelor's degree in Civil



**Cmdr. Dave Cortinas**

Engineering from Texas A&M and a master's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas.

**Rich Mathews**, a Supervisory General Engineer at Resident Officer in Charge of Construction (ROICC) Portsmouth, was selected as the LANTDIV Headquarters Civilian Engineer of the Year. He earned a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Virginia Military Institute and was recognized for finding engineering solutions to complex and often one-of-a-kind construction problems. These



**Rich Mathews**

included a \$52 million contract to modernize the waterfront at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard and volunteering to coordinate and setup an international construction partnership between the U. S. Air Force and the Netherlands to expand the airfield and related facilities on the island of Curacao.

The NAVFAC Engineer of the Year program is part of a National Society of Professional Engineers effort leading to the Federal Engineer of the Year, named each year during National Engineers' Week in February.

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RDML Michael K. Loose, CEC, USN

**Vice Commander**  
CAPT Michael H. Conaway, CEC, USN

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John E. Peters

**Volume 40, Number 1**

## On the cover:

**ROICC NORFOLK**—Crane operators and riggers from W.O. Grubb, Richmond, Va., lift a cantilevered roof truss during construction of an aircraft maintenance hangar being built in the SP Area of Naval Station Norfolk.

Each of the five trusses in the hangar is 155 feet long, weighs 110,000 pounds and is made of steel pipes, ranging in size from 12 to 18 inches in diameter. These trusses cantilever the length of the hangar bay, approximately 85 feet, and support the entire roof of the hangar as well as interior cranes and other items. The fabricator, Banker Steel of Lynchburg, Va., completely assembled each truss in the shop and then took it apart prior to shipping to make sure each piece would fit in the field.

The \$11.6 million project, designed by TranSystems Corp. of Norfolk, is being built by American Bridge Company, of Williamsburg. The project is being managed by ROICC Norfolk with Lt. Sarah Franson the AROICC and Bill Russell the ConRep. The hangar will be completed in the spring of 2003.

# Aviano's Bobby Canady named LANTDIV Employee of the Year

**HQ**—Bobby Canady, a Supervisory Construction Representative at ROICC Northern Italy, is the Atlantic Division Employee of the Year for 2002. Selections were made in January from nominations from each of the LANTDIV components.

Bobby was nominated by Mike Bellamy who praised him as one of the foremost contributors to the Atlantic Division's success in managing facilities design and construction for the U.S. Air Force and NATO at Aviano AB, Italy. He also serves as a ROICC consultant for EFA Mediterranean on construction, quality assurance and contractor quality control and is the EFA Med program manager for Corps of Engineers Quality Assurance training and the NAVFAC Construction Quality Control program.

Also nominated were Marvin Barnes, HQ, Andrew David Gutberlet, EFA Chesapeake, and Jason Speicher, EFA Northeast.

Lillian Suggs, a Contract Specialist at ROICC Dahlgren, is the Field Employee of the Year. She was nominated by Lt. Cmdr. Matthew Suess who praised her administration of a regional Job Order Contract. She dealt with the bankruptcy of the contractor, awarding construction of a

\$400,000 test facility and saving a \$20 million research program it facilitated. She also negotiated a last minute replacement for a trash removal contract when the incumbent declined to pick up a contract option.

Also nominated were James Murphy, EFA Northeast, Richard Taylor, HQ, and Adel Zaki, EFA Med.

Christina Lauria, a Management Analyst at ROICC Sigonella, is the Administrative Employee of the Year, GS-7 and above. She was nominated by Cmdr. Steve Bertolaccini who praised her implementation of an electronic submission process for contractor correspondence, which eliminated the need for redistributing the correspondence within the office. She also resolved many difficult issues involving base access for contractors due to increased security requirements.

Also nominated were Anne Marie Purul, EFA Northeast, Lea Sanders, EFA Chesapeake, and Joyce Smith, HQ.

Michael Stanley, a mail orderly at EFA Med, is the Administrative Employee of the Year, GS-6 and below. He was nominated by Ron Young who said he is always willing to go the extra mile to assist wherever needed. He filled in for the receptionist

when she was on maternity leave and provided great assistance with the IT property inventory when manning in that department was reduced. Beverly Gray, EFA Northeast, was also nominated.

Teams of employees were recognized with awards in two categories, providing products and services and for process improvements. The ROICC Southern Italy Business Management Team received a Gold Award for Process Improvement. The Silver Award went to the EFA Northeast Operations Dept. for developing a user-friendly, electronic tracking system for Facilities Support Service contracts.

Gold Awards for Products and Services went to the LANTDIV HQ TEMC, the EFA NE Pest Management Program and ROICC USNA Bancroft Hall Renovation team. Silver Awards went to ROICC Patuxent River for design-build process on the LAMPS test facility and the RDT&E support facility, the HQ Force Protection and Unified Design Criteria team, ROICC Portsmouth Hospital, the ROICC Aviano Runway and Lighting repair project, the ROICC Sigonella NEX/DECA project, the ROICC Pax River Small Business BOS team and the ROICC Dahlgren NITMAC team.



**Lillian Suggs, ROICC Dahlgren  
Field Employee of the Year**



**Cristina Lauria, ROICC Sigonella  
Admin Employee, GS-7 & above**



**Mike Stanley, EFA Med  
Admin Employee, GS-6 & below**

# Building Institute honors Johnson



**RADM Michael R. Johnson**

**NAVFAC HQ**—Rear Adm. Michael R. Johnson, Commander of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) and Chief of Civil Engineers

was awarded the National Institute of Building Sciences' (NIBS) 2002 Honor Award at the Institute's annual awards banquet, Jan. 15 in Washington, D.C. The award was presented by NIBS Board Chairman Henry L. Green.

The NIBS' Honor Award is presented to individuals or organizations that have made exceptional contributions to the nation and the building community.

In making the presentation, Green observed: "given what is going on in the world today it is fitting that we honor someone who has so nobly served his country." Admiral Johnson came to NAVFAC headquarters after commanding the Atlantic Division, where he also commanded the Second Naval Construction Brigade and was Director, Shore Activities Readiness for Commander U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

Admiral Johnson was selected for

his leadership of the NAVFAC initiatives to conceive and support the Whole Building Design Guide (WBDG) and the next generation of the Construction Criteria Base. The WBDG, which is being developed as an internet portal, vetts the vast amount of web-based data on building design, products, and systems into usable, up-to-date information.

"The Admiral recognized early on the value of providing NAVFAC's staff with the methodology to readily access commercial technologies, improved criteria dissemination, and simultaneously reduce its cost of maintaining criteria," Green said. "Ultimately, it was Admiral Johnson and the staff at NAVFAC, who are responsible for overseeing \$6 billion in facility design and construction, who saw the benefits of this project and provided the support to move it forward."

## Bob Ostermueller retires

Bob Ostermueller (Bob O to his many friends) retired March 1 after a career spanning more than 32 years, all spent with Northern Division / EFA Northeast.

Born in Newark, N.J. in 1947, Bob received a degree in civil engineering at Northeastern University in 1970. That same year he began his professional career as a PDC in the Design Division's Structural Branch. During a training rotation in the Planning Division, Bob was drawn to planning as a career, first as a master planner and later as an environmental planner—his true professional love.

Bob has long maintained that he has the best job in EFANE—one that keeps him at the epicenter of the biggest, most important, most visible



and sometimes controversial and even contentious projects.

## ***Loose, Phillips and McGarrah nominated for second stars***

Rear Admirals Michael K. Loose, Atlantic Division Commander, and Robert L. Phillips, NAVFAC Vice Commander, have both been nominated for promotion to the two-star rank of Rear Admiral (Upper Half) in the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps. CEC Reserve Rear Admiral James M. McGarrah was also nominated for his second star. He is commander of LANTDIV's reserve component.



# LANTDIV and HBA Architects earn DoD Value Engineering Awards

**WASHINGTON, DC**—A team of employees from the Atlantic Division (LANTDIV) received the Organization Award for the Navy as part of the 2002 DoD Value Engineering Achievement Awards presented Nov. 22 in Washington, D.C.

Bill Bogue, Cyndi Dunlo, Bill Ketchum, and Shirley Bowe, all registered value specialists and cost engineers in the LANTDIV HQ Cost and Value Engineering Branch, achieved \$30 million in first cost savings and \$3 million in life cycle cost savings over the past two years.

Projects included a Consolidated Academic Instruction Facility and an Engineering Equipment and Maintenance Shop at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, an Aircraft Maintenance Hangar at Naval Station Norfolk and Housing Revitalization projects at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek and Naval Air Station Keflavik.

HBA Architecture, Engineering and Interior Design, a Virginia Beach firm, was selected as the Outstanding Navy Contractor for using state-of-the-art electronic technologies to produce functional design alternatives and communicate project value improvement that could be evaluated efficiently by the client. These efforts saved \$20 million in first costs and \$1.6 million in life cycle costs. Projects included the Aircraft Stripping Facility



**Bill Ketchum, Shirley Bowe, Cyndi Dunlo and Bill Bogue with VE banner.**

and Aircraft Hangar Improvements at MCAS Cherry Point, and the Amphibious Operations Maintenance and Storage Complex at MCB Camp Lejeune. Bill Hargrove and Joe Bovee accepted the award for the firm.

Value engineering is a systematic process to analyze functions in hopes of identifying ways to reduce the production or operating cost of systems, equipment, facilities, services, or supplies with the objective of reducing total cost of ownership while retaining required system performance and quality. During fiscal 2001, more than 2100 in-house Value

Engineering Proposals and contractor-initiated value engineering change proposals were accepted throughout the Department of Defense with projected savings in excess of \$768 million.

Individuals, teams, organizations, contractors and projects from each DoD component were selected for the recognition, presented by the Honorable Mike Wynne, Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics and Dr. Spiros Pallas, Principal Deputy Director, Strategic & Tactical Systems.

## ASCE honors John Lynch as Civil Engineer of the Year

**HQ**—John Lynch, a Civil Engineer in the Engineering Innovation and Criteria Office, was selected as the Norfolk Branch, ASCE, Government Civil Engineer of the Year. The announcement was made Feb. 21 at the annual Engineer's Week banquet.

John was recognized for his contributions in developing the DoD Minimum Anti-Terrorism Standards for buildings and his leadership in the DoD facility engineering community. Among his many duties, he currently manages the ATPF Criteria Hotline and provides worldwide training on "preventing progressive collapse."

John has been with EICO for nearly eight years, coming to Norfolk from the Navy Crane Center and Northern Division, in Philadelphia.



# First high-rise BEQ opens at Norfolk shipyard

## *Second will open later this year*

**ROICC PORTSMOUTH**—The Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) cut the ribbon opening its newest Bachelor Enlisted Quarters (BEQ), six-story Dale Towers West, on Nov. 22.

In May 2000 LANTDIV awarded a \$15.6 million best value source selection contract to W. B. Meredith II, Inc. for a new BEQ at NNSY. Seven months later a bid option was awarded to Meredith for a second BEQ valued at \$15.7 million, for a total contract value of approximately \$32 million.

The first building was designed in-house by a team headed by Architect Mary Austin, while the bid option was a design-build effort between W. B. Meredith and the company's architectural firm, Dills Ainscough Duff. The design was based on and is a mirror image of the first BEQ. The second building, Dale Towers East, will open in 2003. Some members of the LANTDIV design/construction team are in the photo on the right.

Both acting shipyard commander, Capt. James Roger, and Capt. George Koucheravy, Regional Program Manager for Support Services, praised the project for the quality of life improvements it brings for Sailors assigned to ships undergoing repair at the shipyard.



# Navy partners with Maryland to fight pollution

**EFA CHESAPEAKE**—Engineering Field Activity Chesapeake's commanding officer, Capt. Thomas G. Calhoun joined Rear Adm. David Architzel, commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic and DoD regional environmental coordinator, along with installation commanders from across the Washington metropolitan region, Christi Whitmann, administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Maryland Governor Parris Glendening and officials from the Maryland Department of the Environment, in the signing of the Maryland Pollution Prevention Partnership Charter.

The partnership's goal is to combine the efforts of all parties to protect Maryland's environmental resources through pollution prevention strategy.

Members of the partnership will meet regularly to provide a forum to share ideas and discuss regulatory and technological developments in the area of pollution prevention. The partnership involves environmental managers from defense installations, state and federal regulators who have shown commitment to achieving measurable environmental improvements for the state of Maryland.

"So many opportunities exist for us to take time and effort to prevent pollution. This partnership will result in the necessary steps to establish and promote pollution prevention and I am proud that EFA Chesapeake is a part of this," Capt. Calhoun said.



# Aviano fitness center is almost ready

By Jim Weslowski

16th AF/PMO public affairs

**ROICC Aviano** — Soon, staying fit will be a little easier or at least more convenient for everyone in the flight line area. Situated in a premiere location, adjacent to the golf course and the Commissary/Exchange complex, the base fitness center will soon be added to the list of completed Aviano 2000 projects. Also located in this prime area are the new dorms, visiting quarters and temporary living facilities that are nearing completion.

"The construction crane was removed from the site in mid-June," said Thomas Woosley, 16th Air Force Program Management Office project manager. "After that the remainder of construction was interiors, site work, utility connections and equipment installation. We are expecting to have a grand opening/ribbon cutting ceremony in late February or early March 2003."

As part of the new sports complex, which consists of six baseball fields, three lighted tennis courts and a professional running track opened for use in May 2002, the new gym will be the crown jewel.

"We are also hoping to see a 6-lane lap pool addition to the 31,000 square foot facility in the near future," said Woosley. "Utilities to support a pool have been prelocated in a convenient area of the building."

"If the population grows and the mission expands at Aviano, this facility will be able to be expanded and meet future needs. The unique facility plan allows for future additions to the gymnasium and racquetball courts," he added.

Through the main door of the fitness center there will be an aerobics area with a flexible low impact aerobics surface, followed by sections of weights, training and cardio fitness equipment. Arched glass walls will separate the exercise areas giving an open and bright atmosphere with a view of the near-by mountains.

"The floor plan is designed with the



**Lt. Marc Doran, Resident Officer in Charge of Construction project engineer at Aviano AB, Italy, checks the control box and fixtures in one of two saunas built into the new fitness center. The grand opening is being planned for late February or early March 2003. (Photo by Jim Weslowski)**

user in mind," said Woosley. "When you enter the building you will pass the administration sections, then you are headed to the check-in area and equipment/laundry rooms. Next you will go through the locker rooms with saunas before accessing the aerobics, weights and cardio workout areas on the other side. As you move in the opposite direction toward the gym's basketball and volleyball floor, you pass two racquetball courts and seating area. It's a total fitness center."

"The interior is the highlight of this building," said Lt. Marc Doran, Resident Officer in Charge of Construction project engineer. "Italian marble and tile finishes are used throughout the building. The availability and cost of this type of construction allows for its use here. For safety and comfort the building is air conditioned, fully fire protected and its foundation has a radon gas reduction system installed.

"The gymnasium has a hardwood

basketball court with retractable glass backboard systems and multiple wall mounted scoreboards. It also has several special built-in features, including pullout bleachers and the capability to divide the gym into halves. There are separate locker rooms for men and women, administrative offices and a laundry area for the staff," added Doran.

The building is constructed on a concrete foundation, with a concrete column and beam structural system. Infilled hollow clay tiles make up the exterior walls with a painted stucco finish. The roof is a sloped clay tile with bronze aluminum windows and doors with tinted glazing.

The \$4 million fitness center project was jointly funded by NATO and the U.S. Air Force and is being constructed by Cooperative Muratori Riuniti, Filo, Ferrara, Italy. The U.S. firm of Clark-Nexsen of Norfolk, Va., designed the facility with U.S. Air Force design standards.

# Bancroft renovation in home stretch

**ROICC ANNAPOLIS**—One of the most prestigious and ambitious projects for the Resident Officer in Charge of Construction (ROICC) Annapolis is the complete renovation of Bancroft Hall, which houses, feeds and provides recreation for all 4,400 Naval Academy Midshipmen. The facility has been undergoing major renovation since the early 1990s. The final \$17 million contract was awarded to Whiting-Turner to renovate the center section of the facility by May 2003.

## Naval School Established

In hopes of improving the state of education of naval officers, the Navy Department acquired a nine-acre tract of land in Annapolis, Md, then known as Fort Severn, in 1845. In October of that year, the Naval School was established and admitted its first class of 50 midshipmen. One year later, Congress recognized the existence of the school by authorizing just over \$28,000 for repairs and improvements to the existing wooden structures. The growth of the school, renamed the U.S. Naval Academy in 1850, has mirrored that of the Navy ever since. Today, the Naval Academy Complex spans 338 acres, the Brigade of Midshipmen is over 4,000 strong, and granite buildings have replaced the old wooden structures of Fort Severn.

The most impressive and historically significant of these structures is Bancroft Hall, named after George Bancroft, whose efforts as Secretary of the Navy in 1845 were instrumental in founding the Naval Academy.

In 1895, a prominent New York architect was commissioned to develop an architectural and topographic master plan for a new Naval Academy. His plan called for the expansion of the yard by sizeable landfills and showed buildings in monumental French Renaissance style, grouped in functional units, with a new dormitory that was to become Bancroft Hall. Originally planned for just 480 midshipmen, the design allowed for additional interconnected wings to be built in the future as needed. The dormitory was to contain



the battalion mess hall, kitchen, offices, and a hall consecrated to the memory of Navy and Marine Corps heroes.

Work began on Bancroft Hall in 1901 and was finished in 1906 with the completion of the center section and what are now Wings 3 and 4. As originally conceived, Bancroft Hall grew to accommodate larger classes of Midshipmen. Wings 1 and 2 were completed in 1918, Wings 5 and 6 in 1941, and finally Wings 7 and 8 in 1961. Currently, this nine building, 1.4 million sq. ft. complex, the biggest single dormitory in the world, contains 1,800 dorm rooms, a dining facility in which the entire brigade of midshipmen dines together, and a myriad of support spaces, including fully functional medical and dental clinics, pistol and rifle ranges, athletic training facilities, uniform and retail stores, an 18-chair barbershop and a post office.

## Modernization and Restoration

The defense budget cuts of the early 1990s were also felt at the Naval Academy. In light of the growing backlog of un-funded maintenance work, concerns about the age of certain buildings, issues of fire code compliance, and the presence of

hazardous materials, Bancroft Hall underwent its first major renovation in 40 years. RTKL Associates was commissioned to formulate a master plan for complete renovation of Bancroft Hall. Each wing would constitute a distinct phase of the project and the schedule would be driven by the academic calendar. Work would start immediately following graduation, proceed uninterrupted for 14 months and be completed in early August of the following year, just prior to return of the brigade.

Phase 1 of the Bancroft Hall Renovation Program started in June of 1994 with work in Wing 7. The scope of work for each phase essentially called for the complete demolition of the building interior, exposing its structural members; the removal of all lead and asbestos; the modernization of all interior finishes, mechanical and electrical systems; and the installation of a data and telecommunications network capable of supporting current technologies and expandable to incorporate future ones.

Today, the project team is on the brink of an unprecedented benchmark in contract performance. To date, the Bancroft Hall Renovation Program has yielded nearly \$250 million of quality



construction in just eight years time. The on-schedule completion of Wing 6 will mark the eighth consecutive year that the team has delivered a phase on time. At the center of this success is the partnership the government has successfully developed and nurtured over the years with the prime contractor, Whiting-Turner, and the architect-engineer firm of record, RTKL Associates.

#### **Final Phase: Center Section**

Work on the ninth and final phase is well underway in the Center Section of Bancroft Hall. The scope of work and schedule for this phase are unique from the other phases in that it doesn't house dorm rooms and is not framed by the academic calendar per se. Instead, the Center Section houses Memorial Hall where the Naval Academy honors alumni who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of their country. This phase plays host to a whole new series of construction, schedule and budget challenges.

In 1961, the Secretary of the Interior notified the Secretary of the Navy that the U.S. Naval Academy had officially been designated a National Historic Site. This designation required the project team to closely examine its efforts to restore and preserve the historical significance of Bancroft Hall as a national landmark. Prior to this final phase, the restoration and preservation efforts were focused almost entirely on the building exteriors. Due in no small part to the century-old ornate plaster ceilings and limestone walls, interior historic restoration and preservation will be showcased in this phase of work.

The Center Section project restoration and preservation scope includes:

- Restoring the exterior skylight above the rotunda, exposing and restoring the plaster ceilings and limestone walls in Smoke Hall that were covered up during the last renovation,
- Installing six new chandeliers in Smoke Hall that were removed during the last renovation,
- Cleaning and preserving all of the wall sconces, plaques, bronzes, and busts in Memorial Hall and Smoke Hall and, most significantly,
- Cleaning and conserving all of the historic flags in Memorial Hall,



appraised at \$3 million, to include the "Don't Give Up The Ship" flag.

From an engineering and construction perspective, the Center Section is that much more impressive. Built concurrently with Wings 3 and 4 at the turn of the century, construction technologies that were still in their infancy were employed. Reinforced concrete was first conceived of in the mid 1800s. What is remarkable is that construction on Bancroft Hall, which utilized reinforced concrete, began just 25 years after construction was

complete on the first building in the United States to use this technology.

The final phase takes a different approach capitalizing on lessons learned from previous phases. This efficient approach has also created an opportunity, in light of the historic and ceremonial significance of the spaces inside the Center Section, to complete construction in just 12 months. To meet this schedule, the design was fast-tracked and phased so that construction could begin while the design effort progressed.

## **CEC officer returns home**

**ROICC ANNAPOLIS**—Lt. Miguel Diequez, AROICC on the Bancroft Hall project, has been engaged in renovating Bancroft Hall since he began his tour at Engineering Field Activity Chesapeake. Diequez considers it a privilege and an honor to renovate a building he once called home.

"I have lots of vested interest. I am a 1997 academy graduate," he said. "One of the main reasons for me to come back was to have the opportunity to restore the academy to her original splendor."

The superintendent of the Naval Academy is confident in the work that ROICC Annapolis has performed so far. In addition to Lt. Diequez, the team consists of engineers Tom Trulli and Chris Gallop, engineering technicians Garry Becket and Steve Boswell, contract administrator Teresa Ruter, administrative support from Linda Ochs, and Jim Anderson, RTCO corp.

In February it was announced that Lt. Diequez was the 2002 winner of the Sverdrup Medal from the Society of American Military Engineers. The award is presented annually to an active duty officer, under the age of 36, for outstanding engineering contributions.



# Ches renovates Bethesda clinics

**ROICC BETHESDA**—The National Naval Medical Center officially opened a renovated Family Health Clinic, the first of four clinics that Barclay White/Coakley Williams Construction will renovate at the medical center. This \$1.2 million project entails the major renovation of 10,000 square feet and involved the relocation of facilities to allow for the expansion.

The first phase of the project involved relocating Building Maintenance and the Pass/ID Office. This phase was completed in February 2002 with a grand opening ceremony on April 10, 2002.

The Pass/ID Office is essential to the function of the hospital and the base providing services to more than 11,000 customers annually. These services include providing DoD vehicle registrations; parking passes, and staff badges. The new Pass/ID Office will have the capacity to provide daily services to more customers and keep up with the growing demand.

According to William Brooks, head of public safety, the new office space will allow his staff to provide services to five customers at a time, instead of the two to three customer capacity provided in the previous office space. Additionally, the new space has lower counter tops making it more accessible to customers using wheel chairs. The Pass/ID Office plans to expand its services in the future by providing a fingerprint and passport photo station, and by distributing mass transit passes.

The second phase of the project expands the Family Health Clinic by 8,000 square feet. Completed in October 2002, the Family Health Clinic extension contains fourteen additional exam rooms, eight offices, two waiting areas, one lounge and two locker rooms for staff. The project biggest challenges was installation of a new air handling unit without disrupting the services of the Pass/ID Office, the Navy Credit Union, and the food Court.

ROICC Bethesda and Coakley Williams developed a strategy to reduce the installation period. This strategy required the contractor to



**L-R: Cmdr R. Ross, Lt. Cmdr. K. Connolly, Capt. J. Murray, Capt. W. Leonard, Capt. L. Brown, Jack Anderson, Rear Adm. D. Arthur, HM1 J. Brew, Lt. Jg. R. Azar, and Mark Bargas. (Photo by Miguel Belen)**

provide temporary services to these areas and to work double shifts to cut the installation period in half.

The Family Health Clinic extension gives the hospital the flexibility to expand its facilities and provide better services to its patients. According to medical center officials, the Family Health Clinic extension will provide services from birth to geriatric care.

The new space will allow the clinic to increase the number of medical providers from 11 to 18, which will increase the number of patients receiving primary care services from 2,500 to 4,400 a month.

Miguel Belen is the project manager along with Conni Brisson, Jim Walters, Dave Garrity, and Romando Harrison.

## Team effort helps NWS Earle earn regional nomination

**ROICC NEW JERSEY**—Naval Weapons Station Earle, N.J. has been selected as the Commander Navy Region Northeast nominee for the Commander Atlantic Fleet Excellence Award.

"It's a total team effort that made you the standout of the Northeast Region and the Atlantic Fleet," Rear Adm. Michael C. Tracy said in remarks to base personnel.

"ROICC New Jersey, EFA Northeast, the Atlantic Division and NAVFAC are all an integral part of the team at Weapons Station Earle that ensures that Earle continues to have a strong infrastructure of facilities," said Ralph F. Tinari, Supervisory Civil Engineer.

"Completion of numerous existing and future construction projects play a critical support role in ensuring the Fleet is successful in completing its mission at Earle," he added.



# Ches expands Andrews AFB clinic

**ROICC Andrews**—EFA Chesapeake awarded a \$5.8 million contract to John C. Grimberg Company to design and construct a 33,232 sq. ft. clinic with a 1,000 sq. ft. connector to the current Malcolm Grow Hospital at Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

Since its construction in 1958, the Malcolm Grow Medical Center's teaching and medical missions have grown substantially. However, the facility has not been able to keep pace with the current needs of its patients. The facility relies on temporary buildings that were intended to accommodate overcrowded primary care facilities and to provide workspace for the associated administrative support space. The temporary spaces are nearly 10 years old now, and the facility requires space that can offer more reasonable accommodation.

The new project will provide cutting-edge design space to help the staff meet the needs of the Air Force and the Surgeon General. The new clinic will allow military personnel to get care in one centralized location instead of visiting various sections of the installation. The new facility, to be



**L-R: Senior Airman Clifford Vosburgh-89th Medical Dental Group (MDG), Tech. Sgt. James Zorn, 89th MDG, John Treseler-Corporate Secretary/Treasurer for Grimberg Inc., Brig. Gen. Barabara Brannon, Commander 89th MDG, Capt. Thomas Calhoun, Commanding Officer, EFA Chesapeake, Peter Grimberg, President of Grimberg, Inc. Staff Sgt. Hubert Thurmond, 89th MDG and Airman 1st Class Tawnie Miller, 89th MDG. (Photo by Al Lawrence)**

located immediately adjacent to the north end of Malcolm Grow Hospital, will be completed in March 2004.

This is a rewarding project for ROICC Andrews to take part in. The benefits it will provide to the men and

women of the Air Force cannot be measured. Team Chesapeake includes Lt. Shawn Bogdan, AROICC, Jim Diaz, engineering technician, Barbara Wilson, contract specialist and John C. Grimberg Company.

## EFA NE and PWC establish single storefront

**By Cmdr. Tim Armstrong and  
Cmdr. Willington Lin**

**PHILADELPHIA** – Nail by nail, beam by beam, brick by brick...the single storefront to "One Facilities Engineer Voice" is taking shape in the Northeast Area.

Of course, we're not talking about real construction materials...but virtual nails, beams, and bricks...the single storefront here is taking shape in the form of working partnerships between the Public Works Center Norfolk Detachment – Philadelphia (PWCDET) and Engineering Field Activity, Northeast (EFA NE). The latest partnering session was held on Feb. 13 to innovate and foster the single storefront.

The PWCDET Officer in Charge,

Cmdr. Tim Armstrong and the EFA NE Activity Liaison Officer (ALnO), Kathy Finan, conducted the session, a follow up to an introductory meeting between EFA NE ALnOs and PWCDET—Customer Service Representatives (CSR) held last year. This session continues the desire of both organizations to build a better more attractive storefront and improve upon the coordinating efforts to serve the PWCDET and EFA NE clients in the Northeast.

PWCDET managers Jim Schaffner, David Heckman, Joseph Welsh, Vince Talotia, and Gary Talvacchio, and EFA NE ALnOs Ron Shatz, Dennis Gallagher, and Dawn Kincaid joined in, rolled up their sleeves, threw some issues on the table, and listened to understand the

different processes each organization brings to our Navy/Marine Corps customers. The partnering session was punctuated by briefings provided by EFA NE contracting officers on the different acquisition, facilities support, and base support contract vehicles available and from PWCDET managers on the CSR system and services available from the PWC.

Dawn Kincaid introduced the upcoming FacTS Client Survey module and Cmdr. Willington Lin, a reservist on active duty, facilitated the partnering session. The single storefront is not finished yet, more working meetings are scheduled shortly, but it's quickly taking shape to provide integrated, coordinated facilities engineering services to the fleet and other customers.

# EFA Chesapeake and NAS Pax River protect Blue Heron nesting sites on Bloodsworth Island

**Dorchester County, MD—**Engineering Field Activity Chesapeake has joined with the Natural Resources Management Program of the Naval Air Station Patuxent River Environmental Dept. to erect nesting platforms for Great Blue Herons on Bloodsworth Island (BWI).

Because Great Blue Heron are birds that typically migrate to this location each year, the work to save this species' natural habitat was made possible through the Sikes Act Cooperative Agreement. EFA Chesapeake, along with its partners on the Southern Maryland Resources Conservation and Development Board, executed the agreement.

The Sikes Act is unique to the Department of Defense. It specifically authorizes DoD to conduct natural resources management and programs on the properties under its stewardship. One unique aspect of the Sikes Act is that for the purposes of natural resources management, DoD is authorized to enter into Cooperative Agreements with non-profit organizations, state agencies, universities and private individuals.

BWI is located west of Dorchester County's Bishops Point, within the Chesapeake Bay area. The Navy and other Department of Defense components have used the area for ship-to-shore operations and air-to-ground bombing practice since World War Two. Over the years the ship-to-shore activity has disappeared and the frequency of air-to-ground bombing exercises has decreased. However the island continues to be utilized for specialized testing, target practice and training for special operations forces.

One of the most devastating threats to BWI is the continued erosion into the Chesapeake Bay; the island at its highest point is only three feet above sea level. The trees on the Island have historically served as a nesting ground (known as a rookery) for the Great Blue Herons, which return there in large numbers each year. Herons are not very adaptable when it



comes to nesting, so when a rookery is lost the local Heron population generally declines until a new rookery is established.

The Navy has taken ownership of BWI and now must contend with the eroding shoreline and the increasing level of saltwater that washes up during storms and saturate the soil. These two factors kill most of the trees growing on the island. The Navy has prohibited bombardment on the part of the Island that contains the rookery. Yet, when bombs explode on other areas of the Island, the ground shock to the rookery area can accelerate the rate at which the rookery's dying or dead trees fall. Recognizing the loss of trees would speed the demise of the rookery, the Navy began erecting

artificial nesting platforms in the early 1980's. This most recent effort by EFA Chesapeake and its partners is designed to replace damaged towers and add some new platforms in an effort to extend the life of the local habitat.

The Great Blue Herons will now have an area to populate and thrive in, thanks to outstanding work performed by Tommy Wright, EFA Chesapeake program manager for natural resources; Joan Markley, real estate director and Counsel Office on behalf of the U.S. Navy; and EFA Chesapeake's partners, Southern Maryland Resources Conservation and Development Board and the Patuxent River Environmental Department.

## Marine Corps 2020 plan wins national planning award

**HQ—**Marine Corps Installations 2020 is this year's recipient of the American Planning Association, Federal Planning Division award for "Outstanding Federal Planning Program" of the year.

"This competition was among some great planning products from federal agencies," said Glen McDowell, Planning Business Line Leader. "I2020 was the only nomination that was primarily an in-house product."



# The U. S. Navy is still in Philadelphia

By LT Richard Anderson

**ROICC EAST PA**—Many times people have asked me where I work. When I tell them it's at the Philadelphia Naval Business Center (the old shipyard), they usually respond, "The Navy is still there, I thought that closed?"

Yes, the Navy is still here, and the facilities that we operate are vital to support of the fleet and our country's national defense. The Naval Foundry and Propeller Center's (NFPC) center of production is a massive industrial facility located on what was once the old Philadelphia Naval Shipyard. The shipyard closed several years ago, leaving the property divided amongst civilian users and several Navy commands. The work of these Naval activities is seemingly a well-kept secret. NFPC has served the Navy for eighty-three years, and EFA Northeast has been undertaking a very large modernization of it's facilities.

The Resident Officer In Charge of Construction East Pennsylvania – Philadelphia site, is tasked with managing a \$15.1 million contract to modernize the center. This includes constructing four additional casting pits, each capable of bearing the load of the propellers during the pouring process while also withstanding high temperatures.

Each casting pit is interior to the building, pile supported, with a high-density polyethylene liner to protect the pit against damage due to the constant high water table in the area. Adjacent to each of the pits are pile-supported pads to hold the heavy lifting device used to pull the propellers out of the molds after cooling.

Additionally, an industrial ventilation system upgrade was included to vent off the gases from the melting furnaces. This requires heavy industrial ductwork ranging from 32-inches to 72-inches diameter and spark arrestors to cool the gases prior to collection of particulates. A new cooling stack and window system were installed to replace the old ones that were in poor condition.

The construction project was awarded through source selection to Triton Marine of Washington state,



**The Naval Foundry and Propeller Center in Philadelphia.**

with Parsons Infrastructure & Technology Group the designer. From the start, Triton and the ROICC had more than enough to handle.

The project team consisting of the ROICC, EFANE, A&E, and client had to overcome union labor issues to keep the project on track. Carl Hutchinson, ROICC supervisory engineering technician, coordinated with labor relations experts from EFANE to work compliance issues with the applicable labor dispute laws. As union picketing began, the contractor lost several subcontractors it had lined up to do the work, the most critical being the loss of the pile-driving contractor.

The plans and specifications had called for auger-cast (grout) piles to avoid excess vibration that might disturb the foundry's operations. The job progress slowed and the project was in jeopardy of slipping behind schedule. The "project team", stayed focused on the goal and evaluated numerous pile-driving alternatives including the use pipe piles or H piles as an alternate because they could drive the piles themselves. Although the alternate pile types produce vibrations that the auger-cast piles were meant to eliminate, an alternate specification was provided, including continuous vibration monitoring and

coordination, to avoid interference with foundry operations.

Despite other numerous obstacles, such as the relocation of unforeseen underground utilities, a new utility provider, loss of the critical window installer, and design revisions, the project team kept the renovation moving forward. Spearheading the changes in the field and providing outstanding Quality Assurance was ROICC East PA's Michael Mack, Engineering Technician for the project. In each of these cases though, it has been the team effort and spirit of partnering that has allowed the team to overcome these problems.

By establishing a true partnership early on in the project and maintaining open lines of communication, these obstacles wound up to be merely speed bumps along the way. The project is currently 90 percent complete and is expected to finish a month ahead of schedule.

As stated by Bob McGowan, NFPC Facilities Engineering Manager, "Through careful teamwork and involvement of all the necessary parties: contractor, client, EFANE, ROICC and the A/E, the Foundry is on track to operate it's new facility this summer and the project will be labeled a tremendous success for years to come."

# Sailors like new facilities in Europe

By JOC(SW) Jason Chudy  
Navy Region Europe Public  
Affairs

**EFA MEDITERRANEAN**—For anyone contemplating serving a tour in Europe, there may never be a better time than now to take those orders. “I don’t think it gets better than this,”



said Rear Adm. Michael K. Loose during a recent tour of construction projects in Naples, Italy. “At the end of their tour they will be in some of the best facilities in the United States Navy.”

And Loose would know. As the commander of Naval Facilities Engineering Command’s Atlantic Division, he is responsible for hundreds of millions of dollars worth of improvements to bases throughout Navy Region Europe. Loose made his comments during a weeklong visit to projects in Bahrain; London; Sigonella, Sicily; Naples, and Aviano, Italy in January.

These projects are as varied as the locations they’re in: new bachelor and family housing on most bases, runway upgrades at a few others; force protection/anti-terrorism upgrades in Bahrain and new schools at Naval Air Station Rota, Spain, and at the Air Force’s Aviano Air Base. Atlantic Division’s Engineering Field Activity,

Mediterranean, takes care of all U.S. facilities in the Mediterranean region, not just the Navy’s.

Even after the facilities are completed Atlantic Division still plays an important role in their operation. “Besides all the buildings we do the service contracts for energy, janitorial and services,” Loose explained.

All together, these projects will give Navy Region Europe some of the most modern facilities worldwide. “When (people) see the facilities they will be state of the art facilities,” Loose said, “really improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the operator and bringing a great and dramatic change in quality of life for families, Sailors and Marines.”

Current or recently completed EFA Med projects in Navy Region Europe include:

**Rota, Spain** – New bachelor housing; \$75 million for upgrades to aircraft fueling and support facilities which will allow the base to serve up to 16 large-body aircraft at one time. Upcoming projects include a new headquarters/security complex, new school and other base infrastructure upgrades.

**Naples, Italy** – Naples Improvement Initiative, a \$600 million construction program for administrative, command and control facilities, bachelor and family housing, dental clinic and hospital, exchange and commissary and many other support facilities.

**Sigonella, Sicily** – \$20 million Navy Exchange, commissary and food court opened last year, family housing now opening, \$62 million project to replace more than 80 percent of base facilities and infrastructure on the Support Site, also known as NAS 1, during a 5 ½ year period. Included in this is \$28 million for an MWR complex that includes a full gymnasium, two movie theaters, a food court and 10-lane bowling alley.

Keflavik, Iceland – Recently opened a new bachelor’s quarters. MWR upgrades recently completed include new craft center and two new hot tubs. Movie theater being renovated.

Hospital upgrades currently in progress.

Smaller projects are in planning/construction phases at Naval Support Activities in La Maddalena and Gaeta, Italy; and Souda Bay, Crete.

ITC(SW) Kevin Ratcliffe of Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Europe Central, said the changes in Naples have been great. “We’ve gone from the ‘stone age’ and skipped into the future,” he said. “There have been a lot of positive changes especially in the area of facilities. Assignments overseas present their own set of challenges and the Navy is helping to lessen some of these by providing some really nice facilities.” Ratcliffe has done three tours in Italy, the first one at NAS Sigonella in 1989. He has since served at NSA Gaeta and recently transferred to Naples.

SKCM(SW) Maria Sanchez of the Naples-based Fleet Air Mediterranean staff spent three tours in Rota, Spain. Her first tour there was as a seaman in 1984. “The quality of life has really changed,” she said. “They have improved immensely, especially the single Sailor programs. Now they’ve got a single-Sailor center that we didn’t have then. I’d definitely recommend a tour in Rota based on the changes I’ve seen.”

## Lejeune hosts OSHA seminar

**ROICC CAMP LEJEUNE**--On Feb. 27 ROICC Camp Lejeune hosted a training seminar covering recent changes in the Federal OSHA Steel Erection Standard. A.J. Steel, Safety and Health Officer for Federal OSHA of Raleigh N.C. was the facilitator. Fifty of the seventy-nine attendees represented the North Carolina/Virginia contractor community and the rest were from ROICC, Public Works and Safety offices at Cherry Point, Norfolk and Camp Lejeune.



# Liaison Officers gather for workshop

**HQ**—Atlantic Division Activity Liaison Officers (ALnOs) reinforce the Liaison Program mission every day. In November, they all gathered at Engineering Field Activity Northeast's (EFA NE) new conference facilities for a two-day workshop. EFA NE Commanding Officer, Capt. Bob Raines, welcomed the 23 participants from NAVFAC Headquarters, LANTDIV HQ and EFAs Northeast, Chesapeake and Mediterranean.

Capt. Raines articulated the importance of the liaison function for NAVFAC and expressed his appreciation for ALnO contributions to NAVFAC effectiveness. He stressed that NAVFAC needs to be "inextricably linked to the mission of [each] base..." and that ALnOs are the foot soldiers defending the value proposition NAVFAC provides. Capt. Raines had words of advice to the ALnOs: "Never have a bad day. And don't swallow the go-away pill!" to reinforce the ALnOs' client-focused mission and their challenging role in



keeping NAVFAC focused on the client.

Capt. Raines also had the pleasure of presenting EFA NE ALnO Dawn Kincaid with the Norfolk PWC coin, recognizing her coordination efforts with PWC-Detachment Philadelphia Customer Support Representatives and EFA NE Liaisons, promoting "One Facilities Engineering Voice".

Mark Kraynak, NAVFAC's Liaison Program Manager, briefed the group on the developing claimant consolidation news and the NAVFAC Liaison Leadership Team (LT) Roadmap. The LT roadmap defines an informal community management action plan for the liaison program.

Workshop highlights included networking, facilitated information and process sharing, small group brainstorming, and a humorous "Jerry Springer" style skit. The Facilities Team Survey (FacTs) client feedback results were shared and discussed with specific roles

defined for ALnOs: Keep clients informed of delivery impacts, follow-up after delivery to ensure no outstanding issues exist, work with clients to identify future requirements.

The ALnOs learned they share several serious internal and external challenges. Additionally, the ALnOs learned they should keep their day jobs, as they are not quite ready for the TV talk show circuit!

## New training center at Port Hueneme prepares Seabees, CEC officers

**By Journalist 1st Class JD Walter**

**PORT HUENEME, Calif. (NNS)**—Building strong structural foundations is a major part of what the Navy's Construction Force has long been about.

Building solid training and educational foundations for the Seabees and Civil Engineer Corps officers within the Naval Construction Force is what the new Center for Seabees and Facilities Engineering (CSFE) is all about.

After standing up in a provisional status Oct. 31, the CSFE is now officially operating from Naval Base Ventura County in Port Hueneme, Calif.

The location allows direct coordination between Center managers and many of the Naval Construction Force, along with fleet units who set the requirements and require the skills the center provides. Port Hueneme is also home to the Seabee Technical Training School, Pacific, and the Civil Engineer Corps Officer School, two of the three principal training elements under the center's direction.

Working hand-in-hand with these fleet commands, the

center is taking advantage of initiatives being implemented Navy-wide by the Task Force for Excellence through Commitment to Education and Learning (EXCEL). The CSFE is currently engaged in completing new job task analyses for the seven Seabee ratings (Builders, Construction Electricians, Construction Mechanics, Engineering Aides, Equipment Operators, Steel Workers and Utilitiesmen), as well as for the functions of the new center itself.

"Bringing the best available education and learning systems to our Seabees, developing individualized professional continuums and centralizing construction force knowledge, skills and abilities, will encourage Sailors to excel both professionally and personally," said CSFE Commanding Officer Capt. Pete Saunders. "Making our Seabees better will result in increased operational readiness within the fleets and greater success in mission accomplishment. This is what the Revolution in Training is all about."

# Mackey retires, gets kissed

Gary Mackey retired in January after 29 years with the Atlantic Division. He started out in Project Management and ROICC Norfolk, but spent most of his career in the Construction Division. Gary's reputation, professionalism and expertise extend far beyond LANTDIV. Rear Adm. Loose presented him with the Navy Superior Civilian Service Medal at his dinner. In the photo, Janice Gurganus, left, and Jet Spore, right, portrayed Marilyn Monroe look-alikes for Gary's retirement dinner.



Tiffany Hughes

## Saluting Diversity

LANTDIV HQ held a Saluting Diversity program Feb. 12. Put together by LANTDIV employees, the program featured singing by Sharon Gatling, African dance, oratory by Miss Priscilla Polete, daughter of Ernise Alphonse, OPA, and an art exhibit by Miss Tiffany Hughes, daughter of Tracey Hughes, ROICC Oceana. Guest speaker for the program was Richard Bennett, Jr., Postmaster in Newport News, a Navy veteran and career Postal Service Employee. He spoke on creating a legacy to last a lifetime.



Priscilla Polete



Sharon Gatling



Richard Bennett, Jr.